United Nations A/C.5/62/L.5

General Assembly

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Sixty-second session
Fifth Committee
Agenda item 125
Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/222 of 11 April 1996, 51/218 E of 17 June 1997, 52/212 B of 31 March 1998, 53/204 of 18 December 1998, 53/221, section VIII, of 7 April 1999, 54/13 B of 23 December 1999, 55/220 A of 23 December 2000, 55/220 B of 12 April, 55/220 C of 14 June 2001, 57/278 A of 20 December 2002, 60/234 A of 23 December 2005 and 60/234 B of 30 June 2006, 61/233 A of 22 December 2006 and 61/233 B of 29 June 2007,

Having considered the audited financial statements and the report of the Board of Auditors on the voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the year ended 31 December 2006,[1] the audited financial statements and the report of the Board of Auditors on the United Nations Office for Project Services for the biennium ended 31 December 2005,[2] the report of the Board of Auditors on the implementation of its recommendations relating to the biennium 2004-2005,[3] the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors on the financial statements of the United Nations Office for Project Services for the biennium ended 31 December 2005[4] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[5]

Recalling paragraphs 8 and 9 of its resolution 61/233 A,

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 5E* (A/62/5/Add.5).
[2] Ibid., *Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 5J* (A/61/5/Add.10).
[3] See A/62/120.
[4] A/61/214/Add.2.
[5] A/62/355 and A/61/350/Add.1.

07-57331 (E) 021107

1. *Accepts* the financial report and audited financial statements and the reports and audit opinion of the Board of Auditors regarding the voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the year ended 31 December 2006[1] and the audited financial statements and the report of the Board of Auditors on the United Nations Office for Project Services for the biennium ended 31 December 2005;[2]

2. *Endorses* the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its reports on the voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the year ended 31 December 2006[6] and on the United Nations Office for Project Services;[7]

3. *Also endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[5]

4. *Commends* the Board of Auditors for the superior quality of its reports and the streamlined format thereof;

5. *Notes* the concerns of the Board of Auditors about the general financial situation of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, including the level of the reserves of the Office, requests the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue to implement the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, and encourages Member States to respond in a timely manner to the appeal of the Office for resources;

6. *Also notes* the concerns of the Board of Auditors about the financial report and audited statements of the United Nations Office for Project Services for the biennium ended 31 December 2005,[2] welcomes the measures taken by the United Nations Office for Project Services to address the seriousness of its financial problems, and encourages the United Nations Office for Project Services to implement all the recommendations of the Board and to report to the relevant governing bodies on progress made in this regard;

7. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors on the financial statements of the United Nations Office for Project Services for the biennium ended 31 December 2005[4] as well as the report of the Board of Auditors on the implementation of its recommendations relating to the biennium 2004-2005;[3]

8. *Welcomes* the efforts by the Secretary-General to carefully monitor the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors;

9. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the funds and programmes of the United Nations to ensure full implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors and the related recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in a prompt and timely manner and to hold programme managers accountable for implementation of the recommendations;

10. *Also reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to provide in his reports on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors on

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[6] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 5E* (A/62/5/Add.5), chap. II.

[7] Ibid., *Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 5J* (A/61/5/Add.10), chap. II.

the accounts of the United Nations as well as on the financial statements of its funds and programmes a full explanation for the delays in the implementation of the recommendations of the Board, in particular those recommendations not yet fully implemented which are two or more years old;

11. *Further reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to indicate in future reports an expected time frame for the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, as well as the priorities for their implementation and the office holders to be held accountable.

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General Assembly

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16 November 2007

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Sixty-second session
Fifth Committee
Agenda item 135
United Nations common system

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

United Nations common system: report of the International Civil Service Commission

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/198 of 21 December 1989, 51/216 of 18 December 1996, 52/216 of 22 December 1997, 53/209 of 18 December 1998, 55/223 of 23 December 2000, 56/244 of 24 December 2001, 57/285 of 20 December 2002, 58/251 of 23 December 2003, 59/268 of 23 December 2004, 60/248 of 23 December 2005 and 61/239 of 22 December 2006,

Recalling also paragraph 8 of its resolution 61/274 of 29 June 2007,

Having considered the report of the International Civil Service Commission for the year 2007,[1]

Reaffirming its commitment to a single, unified United Nations common system as the cornerstone for the regulation and coordination of the conditions of service of the United Nations common system,

Reaffirming the statute of the Commission[2] and the central role of the Commission and the General Assembly in the regulation and coordination of the conditions of service of the United Nations common system,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the International Civil Service Commission;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Commission for 2007,[1] and decides to consider the recommendations contained in paragraph 21 of the report under the agenda items relating to the financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 30* and corrigendum (A/62/30 and Corr.1).
[2] Resolution 3357 (XXIX), annex.

07-60193 (E) 201107

International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 and the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991;

3. *Reiterates* its invitation to the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chairman of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to urge the heads of the organizations of the United Nations common system to fully support the work of the Commission, in conformity with its statute,[2] by providing it with relevant information in a timely manner for studies that it conducts under its statutory responsibilities for the common system, as well as by other possible means;

I
Recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission that call for decisions by the General Assembly

A. Conditions of service of staff in the Professional and higher categories

1. Evolution of the margin

Recalling section I.B of its resolution 51/216 and the standing mandate from the General Assembly, in which the Commission is requested to continue its review of the relationship between the net remuneration of the United Nations staff in the Professional and higher categories in New York and that of the comparator civil service (the United States federal civil service) employees in comparable positions in Washington, D.C. (referred to as "the margin"),

1. *Notes* that the margin between net remuneration of the United Nations staff in grades P-1 to D-2 in New York and that of officials in comparable positions in the United States federal civil service in Washington, D.C., for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2007 is estimated at 114.0 and that the average margin level for the past five years (2003-2007) stands at 112.3;

2. *Reaffirms* that the range of 110 to 120 for the margin between the net remuneration of officials in the Professional and higher categories of the United Nations in New York and officials in comparable positions in the comparator civil service should continue to apply, on the understanding that the margin would be maintained at a level around the desirable midpoint of 115 over a period of time;

2. Base/floor salary scale

Recalling its resolution 44/198, by which it established a floor net salary level for staff in the Professional and higher categories by reference to the corresponding base net salary levels of officials in comparable positions serving at the base city of the comparator civil service (the United States federal civil service),

Approves, with effect from 1 January 2008, as recommended by the Commission in paragraph 30 of its report,[1] the revised base/floor scale of gross and net salaries for staff in the Professional and higher categories contained in annex III to the report,

B. Conditions of service applicable to both categories of staff: language incentive

Takes note of the recommendations of the Commission contained in paragraph 65 of its report;[1]

II

Strengthening of the international civil service

1. *Reaffirms* that the staff of the United Nations is an invaluable asset of the Organization, and commends its contribution to furthering the purposes and principles of the United Nations;

2. *Welcomes* the steps taken by the Commission to strengthen its role and improve its functioning, as set out in paragraphs 68 to 72 of its report,[1] and encourages the Commission to continue this process.

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General Assembly

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Sixty-second session
Fifth Committee
Agenda item 129
Programme planning

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

Programme planning

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 37/234 of 21 December 1982, 38/227 A of 20 December 1983, 41/213 of 19 December 1986, 55/234 of 23 December 2000, 56/253 of 24 December 2001, 57/282 of 20 December 2002, 58/268 and 58/269 of 23 December 2003, 59/275 of 23 December 2004, 60/257 of 8 May 2006 and 61/235 of 22 December 2006,

Recalling also the terms of reference of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, as outlined in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX) of 14 May 1976,

Having considered the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, on the work of its forty-seventh session[1] and the report of the Secretary-General on experience gained in the planning and budgeting process,[2]

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Committee for Programme and Coordination as the main subsidiary organ of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council for planning, programming and coordination;

2. *Re-emphasizes* the role of the plenary and the Main Committees of the General Assembly in reviewing and taking action on the appropriate recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination relevant to their work, in accordance with regulation 4.10 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation;[3]

3. *Stresses* that setting the priorities of the United Nations is the prerogative of the Member States, as reflected in legislative mandates;

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/62/16).
[2] A/62/81.
[3] ST/SGB/2000/8.

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4. *Also stresses* the need for Member States to participate fully in the budget preparation process, from its early stages and throughout the process;

5. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations, on programme planning, on evaluation, on the annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2006/07, on United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development and on improving the working methods and procedures of the Committee for Programme and Coordination within the framework of its mandate;[4]

6. *Decides* to discontinue preparation of the report under the agenda item entitled "Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations", mandated in accordance with its resolution 45/254 A of 21 December 1990;

7. *Stresses* the urgent need to fill the position of Special Adviser on Africa in order to direct international efforts to ensure that African issues remain a priority on the global development agenda and the need to mobilize support for capacity and resources and to align funds, agencies and programmes to the objectives of the New Partnership for Africa's Development that underpin the consolidation of peace and democracy on the continent;

8. *Emphasizes* that, in full accordance with its mandate to assist the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly on coordination, the Committee for Programme and Coordination should enhance its coordination role through improved cooperation with the secretariat of the Chief Executives Board and the Joint Inspection Unit, in order to increase planning efficiency and effectiveness so as to continue to ensure the timeliness of the implementation of, and prevent duplication and redundancy in, the action of the Organization;

9. *Welcomes* the intention of the Committee for Programme and Coordination to enhance its dialogue on coordination issues with the Joint Inspection Unit and the secretariat of the Chief Executives Board;

10. *Recalls* regulation 5.6 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation,[3] and reiterates that the Committee for Programme and Coordination shall continue to perform its role in reviewing the strategic framework and recommend any necessary changes to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly;

11. *Reaffirms* the role of the Committee for Programme and Coordination in monitoring and evaluation, and encourages the Committee, in reviewing performance and evaluation reports, to provide, inter alia, action-oriented recommendations aimed at enhancing the effectiveness and impact of the activities of the Organization;

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[4] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/62/16), chaps. II, III.A and C, IV.A and B and V.

12. *Reiterates its requests* to the Secretary-General to submit proposals to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session to improve the links between monitoring, evaluation, programme planning and budgeting;

13. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council to utilize the relevant conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination when considering related reports of the Chief Executives Board;

14. *Welcomes* the decision by the Committee for Programme and Coordination to devote one or two meetings of its future sessions to a discussion, with high-level participation, of a specific issue in its programme of work related to coordination, and in this regard emphasizes the need for the presence of senior programme managers to assist the Committee in its deliberations;

15. *Also welcomes* the work done by the Committee for Programme and Coordination in improving its working methods and procedures within the framework of its mandate for further enhancing its effectiveness and efficiency, and looks forward to the implementation of the decisions of the Committee in order to continue improving its working methods and procedures.

United Nations A/C.5/62/L.8

General Assembly

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30 November 2007

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Sixty-second session
Fifth Committee
Agenda item 128
Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

Capital master plan

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/249 of 23 December 1999, 55/238 of 23 December 2000, 56/234 and 56/236 of 24 December 2001 and 56/286 of 27 June 2002, section II of its resolution 57/292 of 20 December 2002, its resolution 59/295 of 22 June 2005, section II of its resolution 60/248 of 23 December 2005, its resolutions 60/256 of 8 May 2006 and 60/282 of 30 June 2006, section II.B of its resolution 61/236 and its resolutions 61/246 and 61/251 of 22 December 2006, its resolution 62/___* of __ December 2007 and its decision 58/566 of 8 April 2004,

Having considered the fifth annual progress report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the capital master plan,[1] the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2] the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on its activities for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007[3] and the report of the Board of Auditors on the capital master plan for the year ended 31 December 2006,[4]

Reaffirming that the costs of the capital master plan are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. *Reiterates its serious concern* at the hazards, risks and deficiencies of the United Nations Headquarters Building in its current condition, which endanger the safety, health and well-being of staff, delegations, visitors and tourists;

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* See A/C.5/62/L.4.

[1] A/62/364 and Corr.1.

[2] A/62/7/Add.4 and Corr.1.

[3] A/62/281 (Part I), paras. 72-75.

[4] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 5* (A/62/5), vol. V.

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2. *Stresses* the special role of the host country Government with regard to support for United Nations Headquarters in New York;

3. *Notes* the benefits, including economic ones, accruing to host countries from the presence of the United Nations, and the costs incurred;

4. *Recalls* the current practices of host Governments with regard to support for United Nations Headquarters and United Nations bodies located in their territories;

5. *Reaffirms* its commitment to the safety, security, health and well-being of staff, delegations, visitors and tourists at the United Nations, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that concrete safeguards are in place to achieve these objectives and are part of the standard operating procedures throughout the implementation of the capital master plan;

6. *Takes note* of the fifth annual progress report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the capital master plan,[1] the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on its activities for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007[3] and the report of the Board of Auditors on the capital master plan for the year ended 31 December 2006;[4]

7. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

8. *Regrets deeply* the procedural difficulties in United Nations departments, delays in decision-making by Secretariat leadership and insufficient responsiveness to the needs of the project by United Nations management, resulting in projected cost escalation, as reported in paragraph 23 of the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

9. *Stresses* the centrality of the leadership and oversight of the Secretary-General and senior management, as well as a commitment to the project from all departments during the completion of the capital master plan to avoid a recurrence of the mistakes and delays in the implementation of the project to date and their negative implications for the Organization;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure full accountability for the delays, lack of responsiveness of management to the needs of the capital master plan and other factors that have contributed to delays in the implementation of the capital master plan and the projected budget overrun, and to include this information in the sixth annual progress report;

11. *Accepts* the report of the Board of Auditors on the capital master plan for the year ended 31 December 2006;[4]

12. *Endorses* the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report;

13. *Notes with concern* the findings of the Board of Auditors as contained in its report, and emphasizes the importance of the full implementation of its recommendations;

14. *Reaffirms* the importance of oversight with respect to the implementation of the capital master plan, and requests the Board of Auditors and all other relevant

oversight bodies to continue to report to the General Assembly annually on the capital master plan;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Office of Internal Oversight Services with a comprehensive review focusing, inter alia, on the structure of the Office of the Capital Master Plan, compliance with United Nations regulations and rules on procurement and contracting, adherence to the terms of contracts, internal controls and processes in place to properly manage the project and other high-risk areas, and to report thereon at its sixty-third session;

16. *Requests* the Office of Internal Oversight Services to ensure effective audit coverage of the capital master plan and to submit to the General Assembly all of its reports related to the implementation of the capital master plan;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to develop and implement a comprehensive internal control framework for the capital master plan to mitigate and effectively address all possible risks, to ensure full compliance and responsiveness of the management to the specific requirements of the project, to avoid any delays in the implementation of any aspect of the project and to ensure full compliance with United Nations rules and procedures and General Assembly resolutions governing procurement;

18. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 36, 37 and 38 of its resolution 61/251 on the importance of transparency in the procurement process, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the construction manager takes them fully into account when subcontracting and to report, in the context of the sixth annual progress report, on the specific steps taken and progress achieved in the context of increasing procurement opportunities for vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the implementation of the capital master plan;

19. *Reaffirms once again* paragraph 38 of its resolution 61/251, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that procurement activities conducted by the construction manager in the implementation of the capital master plan are in compliance with United Nations rules, regulations and procedures and General Assembly resolutions governing United Nations procurement activities as well as ethics policies, including post-employment restrictions,[5] and that the relevant provisions are taken fully into account by the construction manager when subcontracting;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all expression of interest notices issued by the construction manager and all related contract awards are posted on the capital master plan website;

21. *Recalls* that, in accordance with article 5 of the United Nations general conditions of contract, the terms of any subcontract shall be subject to and conform to the provisions of the general conditions of contract;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to exercise his authority to undertake, in respect of the subcontractors directly involved in the provision of goods and services to the Organization on behalf of the capital master plan construction manager, a thorough review of their qualifications and identities of the principals involved, and further requests the Secretary-General to provide prior written

[5] See ST/SGB/2006/15.

approval and clearance for the use of such subcontractors, as required in article 5 of the general conditions of contract, so as to ensure the integrity, fairness and transparency of the procurement process;

23. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to post and regularly update the list of subcontractors approved by the United Nations on the capital master plan website and to include information on the implementation of article 5 of the general conditions of contract, including the procedure for review and approval of subcontractors by the United Nations, in future progress reports on the implementation of the capital master plan;

24. *Reaffirms* section XV of its resolution 61/244 of 22 December 2006;

25. *Regrets* the delay in the appointment of the advisory board as requested in its resolutions 57/292 and 61/251, and urges the Secretary-General to expedite the setting up of the advisory board, reflecting wide geographical representation, so that it can begin its work as a matter of priority;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the advisory board provides, inter alia, the necessary level of technical supervision;

27. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to explore the experience of various international organizations that have established ad hoc expert committees to provide advice on technical aspects of their construction and/or building maintenance projects and to report to the General Assembly thereon in the context of the forthcoming sixth annual progress report;

28. *Affirms* that the General Assembly has the sole prerogative of deciding on any changes to the capital master plan project, budget and implementation strategy as approved in its resolutions;

29. *Takes note* of the proposal of the Secretary-General on the accelerated strategy IV;

30. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into an additional swing space arrangement needed for a single-phase renovation of the Secretariat Building as a matter of urgency;

31. *Approves* the changes in the schedule of the renovation of the Secretariat Building proposed by the Secretary-General in paragraph 27 of his report,[1] subject to the availability of the additional swing space arrangement referred to in paragraph 30 above, and, if such arrangement is not entered into within 120 days of the adoption of the present resolution, requests the Secretary-General to proceed without further delay with the phased approach to the renovation of the Secretariat Building as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/251;

32. *Also approves* the changes in the schedule of the renovation of the Conference Building and the General Assembly Building as proposed by the Secretary-General in paragraph 28 of his report;[1]

33. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly comprehensive information on the availability and cost of and the movement of staff to the hired swing space and to ensure that such space will be available to the United Nations as long as it is required and will entail no additional cost or further staff dislocation, bearing in mind the unique nature of the capital master plan;

34. *Reaffirms* paragraph 39 of its resolution 61/251, emphasizes to the Secretary-General the importance of effectively managing the multiple staff relocations and ensuring that the swing space meets the highest standards for the safety, security, health and well-being of the staff of the United Nations and that any disruption in the work of the United Nations as a result of such temporary relocation is minimized at every stage;

35. *Recalls* paragraphs 51 to 56 of the report of the Board of Auditors,[4] and requests the Secretary-General to expeditiously complete the geotechnical and other surveys and to provide updated information on the outstanding technical elements of the project that may have a considerable impact on the overall project, including design work for upgraded blast protection and geotechnical and other surveys, and to include this information in the future progress reports;

36. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the changes approved in paragraphs 30 and 32 of the present resolution are implemented without prejudice to the objectives and quality of the project and to submit to the General Assembly a comprehensive report on the efficiency gains and cost absorption possible through the implementation of these changes;

37. *Recalls* paragraph 10 of its resolution 61/251, and decides that any scope options in addition to those already approved by the General Assembly shall be submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly for its consideration and approval;

38. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure by all means that the project costs are brought back within the approved budget;

39. *Reiterates* its request to the Secretary-General to make every effort to avoid budget increases through sound project management practices and to ensure that the capital master plan is completed within the budget as approved in its resolution 61/251;

40. *Notes* that forward pricing escalation is already included in the approved budget contained in the fourth annual progress report of the Secretary-General,[6] and requests the Secretary-General to avoid budget increases through sound project management practices and to keep the capital master plan within the approved budget, schedule of assessments and time schedule;

41. *Takes note* of the proposal of the Secretary-General to utilize value engineering as a tool to recover the projected cost overruns in the capital master plan budget approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/251, directed at improving performance, reliability, quality, safety and life-cycle costs, and requests the Secretary-General to expeditiously and clearly identify the areas of work where efficiency gains and cost reductions are possible and to report thereon in the context of the sixth annual progress report;

42. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include, in the sixth annual progress report, specific information on the guaranteed maximum price contracts and the activities of the external consultant that the United Nations has hired;

43. *Expresses its concern* that no specific information has been shared with Member States concerning associated costs, and requests the Secretary-General to

[6] A/61/549.

include such information in the sixth annual progress report and to make every effort to absorb such costs within the approved budget of the capital master plan;

44. *Reaffirms its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure that works of art, masterpieces and other gifts are appropriately handled during all the stages of the renovation work and that all associated costs are foreseen;

45. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that measures and procedures are put in place by the Office of the Capital Master Plan to appropriately handle the works of art, masterpieces and other gifts during all the stages of the renovation unless otherwise indicated by the Member States concerned and to report thereon in the context of the forthcoming sixth annual progress report;

46. *Decides* to appropriate $992,771,819 for the biennium 2008-2009;

47. *Reaffirms* the mixed one-time and multi-year assessment option based on the regular budget scale of assessments applicable for 2007, as stipulated in paragraphs 14 to 20 of its resolution 61/251, and decides that there will be no change in the payment schedule for Member States' contributions to the capital master plan;

48. *Requests* the Secretary-General to improve coordination of the capital master plan with the Department of Public Information in the context of reporting on matters and progress relating to the capital master plan and to clarify the existing arrangements that are in place to avoid damage to the image of the United Nations with regard to all aspects of the capital master plan;

49. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to update the Member States through regular informal briefings, besides submitting annual progress reports, on all aspects of the implementation of the capital master plan, including the current status, significant activities carried out since the previous report and risk analysis information outlining any risks identified, action to be taken, status and trends, and to update the relevant information on its website on a regular basis;

50. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to include in the sixth annual progress report information on lessons learned in the implementation of the capital master plan so far and how they are being utilized to improve the current and future planning and implementation of the capital master plan.